



CITY OF LAS VEGAS DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2010-2011

MUDA Awards

The Mayor's Urban Design Awards (MUDA) are presented annually at the State of the City address. To qualify, projects must be located within city limits and achieve significant impact through enhancing public spaces, promoting pedestrian safety, conserving resources and preserving historic buildings and places.

In 2010, former Mayor Oscar B. Goodman awarded four exceptional projects that foster the city's commitment to sustainability and livability in each of four categories:

Building and Environment: RTC-Bonneville Transit Center, located at Casino Center Boulevard and Bonneville Avenue, and Stop and Glow bus shelters, located throughout downtown. The unique and sustainable designs of the transit center and bus shelters enhance downtown and encourage public transportation.

Public Places: Gary Dexter Park. Improvements to this small neighborhood park included equipment upgrades and new uses for existing underutilized spaces, providing an excellent example of efficient use of urban space.

Public Art: Aerial Gallery. This public art "streetscape enhancement" project brings visibility to the arts downtown with a mile-long banner display installed in the median of Las Vegas Boulevard from Charleston Boulevard to Stewart Avenue.

Historic Preservation and Adaptive Reuse: Emergency Arts. The former Fremont Medical Building, constructed in 1951, is located in the Fremont East District. The building houses small arts-based businesses and non-profit organizations, helping to establish the downtown area as a cultural hub.



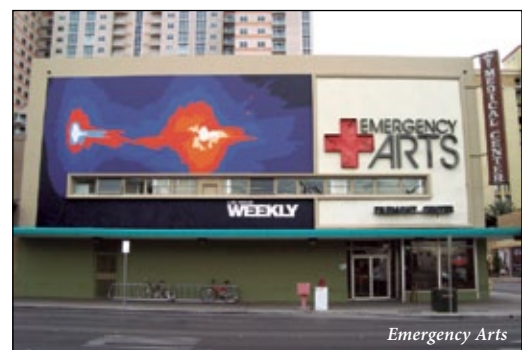
Stop and Glow Shelter



Dexter Park









Aerial Gallery banners



Emergency Arts

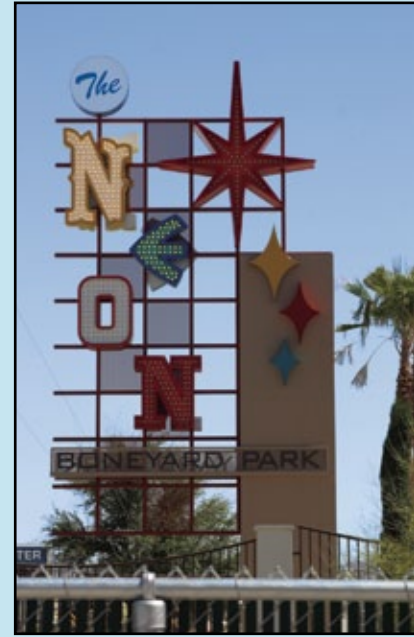
Mayor Carolyn G. Goodman

Council Wards *

-  Ward 4 – Mayor Pro Tem Stavros S. Anthony
-  Ward 2 – Councilman Steve Wolfson
-  Ward 1 – Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian
-  Ward 6 – Councilman Steven D. Ross
-  Ward 5 – Councilman Ricki Y. Barlow
-  Ward 3 – Councilman Bob Coffin

* Effective as of Aug. 6, 2006

FY 2010-2011



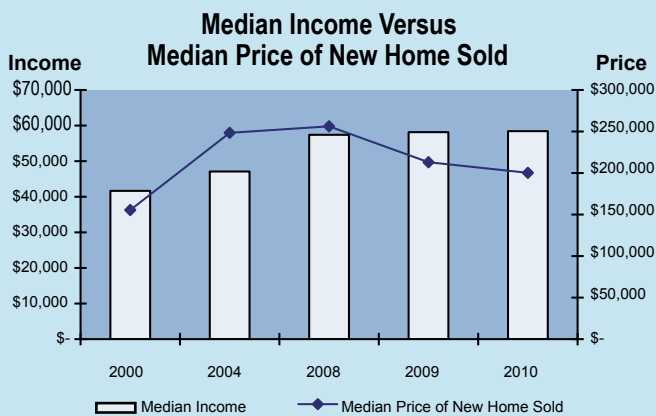
Neon Boneyard Park

Total Subdivision Lots Processed		
Year	Tentative Maps	Final Maps
2000	3,636	3,162
2004	11,767	9,777
2007	5,761	2,367
2008	2,873	3,677
2009	78	10
2010	275	134

Area of the City of Las Vegas		
Year	Acres	Square Miles
2000	70,114.4	109.55
2004	74,951.9	117.11
2007	84,148.2	131.48
2008	84,855.9	132.59
2009	85,277.8	133.25
2010	85,277.8	133.25



Cultural Corridor Bridge



State APA Conference At The Historic Fifth Street School

Awards Given To Former Commissioner Steve Evans And Councilman Ricki Y. Barlow

The 2010 American Planning Association, Nevada Chapter conference was held at the Historic Fifth Street School in downtown Las Vegas. The conference, which was held September 2010, drew more than 100 planners from around Nevada and the southwestern United States. The theme of the conference was “Back to Basics: The Role of Planning in the New Economy.” Sessions focused on maintaining quality of life and shaping future growth despite limited budgets, reduced staff and high expectations.

As part of the Nevada Chapter conference, DeBoer awards for Excellence

in Planning are presented annually to individuals and organizations for excellence in planning projects and individual initiative. The city of Las Vegas won five awards, including Outstanding Plan for an Individual Project for the Neon Museum and Boneyard Park, Outstanding Public Outreach and Journalism for the Department of Planning Community Outreach Program and three for Distinguished Leadership. Distinguished Leadership awardees included Ward 5 Councilman Ricki Y. Barlow, former Planning Commission Chair Steve Evans and Planning Director Flinn Fagg, AICP.



Councilman Ricki Y. Barlow spoke at the State APA Conference held at the Historic Fifth Street School.

Business Licensing Improvements

Achieving the city priority of creating a pro-business environment, the Division of Business Licensing was transferred to the Planning Department with the goal of creating a one-stop shop for businesses locating within the city of Las Vegas. While the staff and operations are scheduled to move to the Development Services Center this fall, the division has begun the process of integrating code changes and improving response to the business community.

Since the inception of the Temporary 90-day Privilege License Program created in August of 2009, more than 320 new licenses have been expedited allowing business to open on a temporary license while waiting for the formal approval process. This improvement can save a new business six to eight months in processing the needed approvals to open their doors for business. The city of Las Vegas currently has 36,374 active business licenses and processed 6,505 new licenses in fiscal year 2011.

Over the next year, the business community can look forward to a simplified administrative process to change the name or location of an existing business, online applications and the implementation of a multi-jurisdictional license for contractors.



Planning And Licensing Move To The DSC

On Jan. 24, 2011 the city relocated the Development Services Center (DSC) to 333 N. Rancho Drive. The new larger DSC houses the Planning Department, Building & Safety Department, Land Development, City Engineer, Fire Prevention, Public Works and Operations & Maintenance administrations. The Business License Division is scheduled to move to the DSC in fall 2011.

With the close physical proximity of these departments, the customer benefits by being able to better coordinate multi-department reviews.

Although the new DSC is the most visible sign of change, it is just one aspect of the city's initiative to improve customer service for the development and business communities as well as city residents. These departments are internally changing their review and permitting processes and functions to make them more efficient, saving time and money for the city's customers.

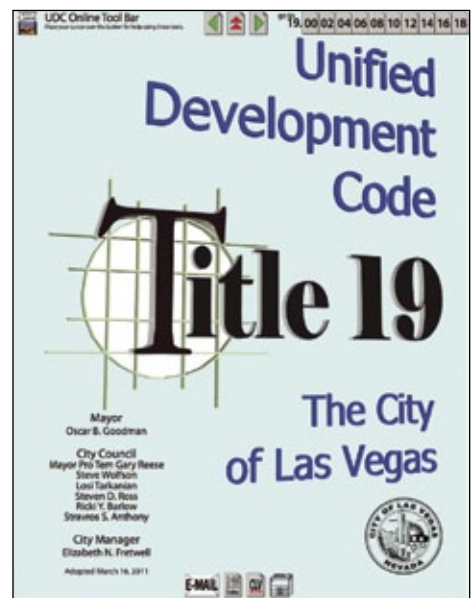
The DSC's hours of operation are Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. with the exception of the Planning and Building & Safety departments' front counters that open Wednesday at 7:30 a.m.

Unified Development Code Adopted

On March 16, the Las Vegas City Council adopted a Unified Development Code (UDC) for the city of Las Vegas. The UDC replaced the previous Subdivision Regulations (Title 18) and Zoning Code (Title 19). The UDC became effective on May 1, 2011.

The Unified Development Code incorporates graphic-oriented elements, resulting in a document that is more user-friendly while eliminating cross-referencing issues, contradictions and duplication of information. The UDC features interactive hyperlinks and menus to further ease navigation while maintaining its ease of use when printed.

Further, the UDC has incorporated changes to increase sustainable development practices. The most notable of these changes is the inclusion the "Complete Streets" chapter. This chapter updates the city's existing street standards and incorporates sustainability elements like additional shade coverage and narrower travel lanes. By narrowing the travel lanes, there is less impervious surface area which is important for reducing runoff and contamination of our community's



The Unified Development Code is in effect, and located at: www.lasvegasnevada.gov/LawsCodes/Unified_Development_Code.htm.

water resources. The new street tree requirements for all street types not only improves shade coverage thereby reducing heat island effects, but also makes for a more inviting pedestrian environment. When the pedestrian realm is more comfortable, people are more likely to choose walking or biking over using their motor vehicle.

The city held numerous training sessions on the new code following the March adoption of the UDC. These sessions provided customers and staff an opportunity to stay current as well as ask questions about the code before it became effective.



Mayor Carolyn G. Goodman at the new Development Services Center dedication ceremony.

Planning Accomplishments For Fiscal Year 2011

The Department of Planning accomplished much during fiscal year 2011. Listed below are some of those accomplishments that benefited the community and customers:

- ◆ As project lead, completed restoration and rehabilitation of historic stables, corral and associated livestock management structures at Floyd Lamb Park at Tule Springs.
- ◆ Created a Conditional Use Verification Form to assist license applicants with a preliminary evaluation of their proposed use(s), so as to minimize the amount of trips between the Development Services Center and City Hall a customer had to make.
- ◆ Created a “Quarterly Development & Statistical Data” section to be added to the existing city of Las Vegas “Reports” web page. The addition will help facilitate information to individuals researching market conditions, development projects and demographic information, among other things.
- ◆ Updated the GIS Geo Database labeling. The project consisted of ensuring that parcels are labeled in a consistent and orderly fashion within the 133.25 square miles that compose the city of Las Vegas.
- ◆ The Long Range Planning division introduced and had adopted two General Plan Amendments to align the various Las Vegas 2020 Master Plan Elements with that

of the recently adopted Unified Development Code (UDC).

- ◆ Received a total of three grants from the Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) to place 330 street trees in three communities: the Historic

Berkley Square Neighborhood within West Las Vegas, Evergreen Avenue within Charleston Heights neighborhood and the community of Hillside Heights southeast of downtown Las Vegas.



New street tree planted on Evergreen Avenue



Historic stables and corral at Floyd Lamb Park restored

2010-2011 Text Amendments

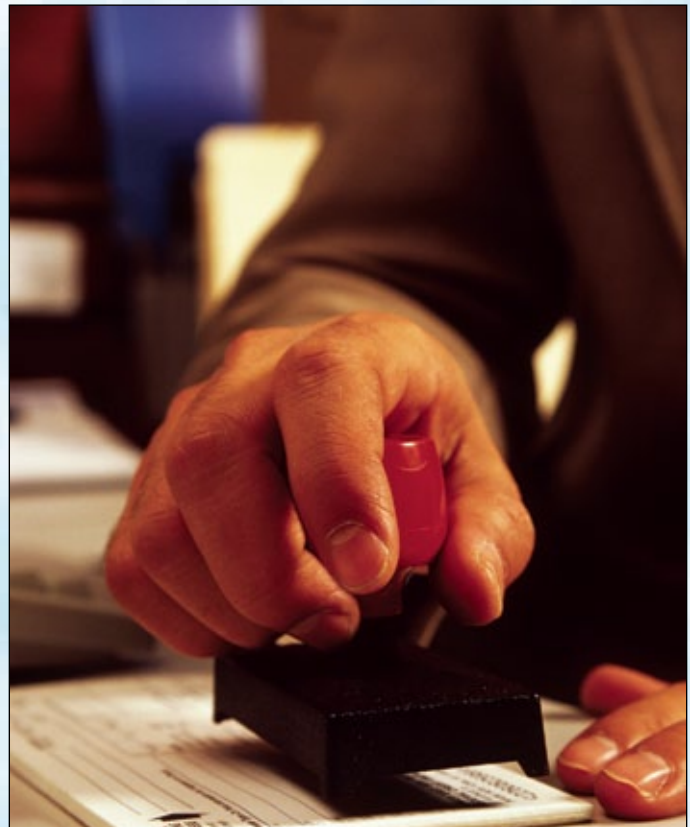
In the past fiscal year, the Department of Planning prepared 16 text amendments for Planning Commission recommendation and City Council consideration related to Planning (i.e. Subdivision Regulations, Zoning Ordinance and the city's special area plans) and one text amendment for City Council consideration related to Business Licensing (i.e. Business Taxes, Licenses and Regulations code). Sixteen of these amendments resulted in ordinances adopted by the council.

The adopted planning amendments broke down as follows:

- ◆ Changes specific to *Title 19*, the Zoning Ordinance, include an update of the definition of a “shopping center,” an overhaul of the “group residential care facility” use, the introduction of a “beer/wine/cooler cultural establishment” use and an “auto sales showroom” use, defining the amount of time a councilmember has to request that an agenda item be brought back for reconsideration, the renaming of the “hotel lounge bar” use to “ancillary lounge bar,” a revision to the regulations for vehicle parking in residential districts and the provision for how time is computed and a new provision for the limited expansion of a nonconforming sexually oriented business located in the Downtown Centennial Plan area;
- ◆ The *Town Center Development Standards Manual* was revised to make a correction to the “minor auto repair garage” use;
- ◆ The *Las Vegas Downtown Centennial Plan* was revised to allow a number of uses and certain outdoor events in the Arts District, correct certain maps and revise the requirements for tree grates and include updated highway-related information;
- ◆ The *Union Park Design Standards Manual* was re-adopted as the *Symphony Park Design Standards Manual* with various corrections and updates of the plan; including the name change and the incorporation of the standards into *Title 19* by reference; and
- ◆ *Title 18*, the Subdivision Ordinance, and *Title 19* were repealed and in their place the city adopted a *Unified Development Code* (see article on page 4).

The adopted Business Licensing amendment involved the introduction of several licensing categories and their corresponding description and annual license fee. Categories that were added include, “corporate administrative office space,” “fulfillment center,” “affiliate company software developer,” “sales-related call center” and “internet retailer.”

The adoption of the *Unified Development Code* (UDC) represents the first comprehensive effort to improve the efficiency and clarity of the city's development code requirements since the early 1990s. The other amendments advance continuity between the development code and other areas of the municipal code, are more responsive to the public's business needs and better meet the intent of state law. Specifically, considerable work was done to revamp the provisions for group residential care facilities to bring them into line with recent court decisions and the number of business licensing categories was expanded to better reflect the diversity of business activity taking place in the city of Las Vegas. The text amendment process remains ongoing as changes to the UDC, Business Licensing code and the city's various special area plans become necessary.



Dwelling Units by Type							
Year	Single Family	Multi-Plex	Mobile Home	Apartment	Townhome	Condo	Total
2010	144,639	7,347	3,122	53,163	10,315	22,124	240,710
2009	143,716	7,314	3,179	53,481	10,351	21,736	239,777
2008	142,735	7,382	3,158	51,103	10,027	21,346	235,751
2007	141,249	7,439	3,160	51,129	9,964	19,990	232,931
2004	127,980	7,386	3,315	50,755	8,021	17,833	215,290
2000	110,497	7,598	3,420	48,927	5,791	16,447	192,680

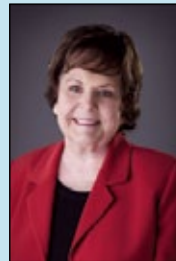
FY 2010-2011

Population and Dwelling Units by Council Ward								
	2000		2004		2009		2010	
	Population	Dwelling Units	Population	Dwelling Units	Population	Dwelling Units	Population	Dwelling Units
Ward 1	77,394	32,385	79,629	33,051	89,961	37,560	89,539	37,426
Ward 2	84,328	34,802	94,270	40,061	98,719	41,393	98,475	41,259
Ward 3	78,849	30,303	81,842	26,958	98,209	35,398	95,488	35,255
Ward 4	82,122	32,320	92,432	40,378	99,804	42,350	99,814	42,462
Ward 5	76,244	31,765	83,440	31,264	94,233	37,180	94,292	37,356
Ward 6	83,937	31,105	103,656	43,578	126,950	45,896	129,048	46,952
Total	482,874	192,680	535,269	215,290	607,876	239,777	606,656	240,710

Department of Planning Recap					
	3rd Qtr 2010	4th Qtr 2010	1st Qtr 2011	2nd Qtr 2011	TOTAL FY 2010-2011
Phone Calls to Main Extension	1,870	1,661	1,534	1,919	6,984
Number of Customers Served	3,660	3,221	3,402	4,027	14,310
Number of Land Use Applications Processed	247	244	260	306	1,057
Number of Building Permits Processed	1,216	989	846	1,004	4,055
Agenda Items	208	210	161	168	747
City Council cases	110	100	64	69	343
Planning Commission cases	98	110	97	99	404
GIS Map Requests	149	115	138	124	526
Total Grants in Dollars	\$0	\$30,000	\$300,000	\$0	\$330,000
General Plan Amendments – Total	5	2	3	3	13
GPAs – City Initiated	3	1	2	1	7
GPAs – Customer Initiated	2	1	1	2	6



Planning Commission (left to right): Todd L. Moody, Trinity Schlottman, Ric Truesdell, Vice Chairman Vicki Quinn, Byron Goynes, Gus W. Flangas, Chairman Glenn E. Trowbridge.



City Council (left to right): Carolyn G. Goodman, mayor; Stavros S. Anthony, mayor pro tem; Steve Wolfson, councilman; Lois Tarkanian, councilwoman; Steven D. Ross, councilman; Ricki Y. Barlow, councilman; and Bob Coffin, councilman.



The Development Services Center, 333 N. Rancho Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada.



Las Vegas City Council

Carolyn G. Goodman,
Mayor

Stavros S. Anthony, Ward 4,
Mayor Pro Tem

Steve Wolfson, Ward 2,
Councilman

Lois Tarkanian, Ward 1,
Councilwoman

Steven D. Ross, Ward 6,
Councilwoman

Ricki Y. Barlow, Ward 5,
Councilman

Bob Coffin, Ward 3,
Councilman

City Management

Elizabeth N. Fretwell,
City Manager

Orlando Sanchez,
Deputy City Manager

Scott D. Adams,
Chief Officer
Community Services

Mark R. Vincent,
Chief Officer
Internal Services

Karen Coyne,
Chief Officer
Public Safety

Planning Commission

Glenn E. Trowbridge,
Chairman

Vicki Quinn,
Vice Chair

Ric Truesdell,
Commissioner

Byron A. Goynes,
Commissioner

Gus W. Flangas,
Commissioner

Todd L. Moody,
Commissioner

Trinity Schlottman,
Commissioner

Department of Planning

Flinn Fagg, AICP,
Director

Annual Report Team

Denise Kaplan,
Editor

Rita Schoonmaker,
Layout and Design

Richard Wassmuth,
Statistical Demographics